

MEETING SUMMARY

TO: Modeling Task Force Members

FROM: Dale Iwai

SUBJECT: Modeling Task Force Meeting Summary

MODELING TASK FORCE MEETING

July 27, 2005 - Wednesday
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Southern California
Association of Governments
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Room – Riverside A

Attendees

Chaushie Chu	Javier Aguilar
Deng Bang Lee	Henning Eichler
Keith Killough	Chris Gray
Tim Byrne	Mike Ainsworth
Kathy Hsiao	Gerald Bare
Paul Burke	Mony Patel
Kathy Hsiao	Robert Farley
Rena Lum	Jimmy Chen
Minna Lee	Jim Lam
Luke Cheng	Vin Kumar
Firooz Hamedani	Charles Chenu
Anup Kulkarni	Marlie Whiteman
Ed Humenic	

MEETING SUMMARY

1.0 Call to Order

Self Introductions

2.0 Public Comment Period – No Comments

3.0 Consent Calendar - Review and Approve Previous Meeting Summary – Not Available

4.0 Information Items:

- 4.1 FY 05-06 Regional Modeling Program – Deng Bang Lee provided an overview of the projects that SCAG will be working on this fiscal year. The prime modeling project is the completion of the *Regional Model Improvement Program* which will be used in the *2003 Model Validation* which is scheduled for completion by the end of this calendar year. The 2003 model will consist of: 1) new models based on 2001 household O-D survey, 2) new software, 3) entire SCAG area, 4) TAZs (4109), based on 2000 Census, plus 40 cordons, 5) conflated highway networks developed from aerial photos, 6) transit networks, developed from TranStar, integrated with the highway network. Caliper Corp. staff will serve as consultant in implementing the new model on TransCad. TransCad files will be made available in other platforms for use by other agencies. Other development projects are the *Airport Model Development*, and the *Heavy Duty Truck Model Improvement (HDT MIP)* programs.

Modeling staff will continue to provide modeling support for the *RTP*, *RTIP*, *AQMP* and other studies as they occur, such as the *Goods Movement project* for the Goods Movement Round Table Stakeholder committee. The 2006 RTIP is due for completion in Spring, 2006.

In response to Kathy Hsiao's question regarding future gas prices and auto operating cost for model use, Deng Bang stated that we will have staff from the Forecast section to discuss the auto operating cost development process at the next MTF meeting.

- 4.2 FY 05-06 MTA Modeling Program – Chaushie Chu provided an overview of the projects that MTA will be working on this fiscal year. MTA's model networks to cover the same area as SCAG's 07RTP. The zones were updated to the 2000 Census for use in the 2001 and 2004 model validation.

Chaushie met with FTA, in Washington D.C., to ascertain that the MTA model will meet FTA's Nu-Start requirements. At the meeting there was review of survey data from Metrolink and other transit operators. FTA would like to see more evidence, an independent check, regarding the increase of drive alone egress for commuter rail riders shown in Metrolink's survey. Chaushie was impressed by FTA's detailed review of access at each stations. FTA reviewed MTA's model specifications and calibration process. Previous models in this region were built from the bottom up (Household surveys, transit surveys, .. mode split). FTA prefers the top down approach (consistent coefficients in mode split). For more details regarding FTA's approaches, contact Chaushie. MTA is still struggling with FTA to get model acceptable. Model validation should be finished by mid October.

On going modeling support projects are the *2006 Long Range Plan, Exposition Light Rail Corridor (Nu-start), Gold Line Extension (Nu-start)*. Both Nu-start projects are due by the first of October.

Research and Development projects for the FY are:

- Finish mode choice model by end of August.
- Restart Destination Choice Model development in September.
- Transit capacity restraint procedure.
- Cube Cargo Model: 1) transfer SCAG HDT model, 2) develop Cube Cargo Model, 3) develop innovative multi-modal hybrid model

Hired Cambridge Systematics to research latest models on Goods Movement such as:
1) Freight logistic model, 2) tour based model, 3) hybrid model of 1) and 2).

- 4.3 FY 05-06 OCTA Modeling Program – Tim Byrne provided an overview of the projects for OCTA for this fiscal year. Modeling staff will continue support of Planning projects such as 1) Measure M Re-Authorization, 2) Long Range Transportation Plan, 3) Incorporation of northern San Diego zones to the model, 4) Orange County/Riverside MIS. Other projects include the shifting to Micro-Simulation traffic modeling, working jointly with Caltrans and UCI.

The next OCTAM model will include: 1) update of the model area to be consistent with SCAG's new modeling zones, 2) update internal zones to 2000 Census, 3) update highway and transit networks using TransCad. OCTA will review the new SCAG model, and then update OCTAM's trip generation, trip distribution, and mode split models. OCTA will work with SCAG to implement air quality emission analysis tools and methodology.

- 4.5 Regional Model Improvement Program - A copy of the Regional Model Improvement Program report, June, 2005 was passed out. This project is due for completion by the end of September, 2005. A presentation will be made by Cambridge Systematics staff at the next MTF meeting (September 28, 2005). A copy of report will be made available on SCAG's website.

Jim Lam provided highlights of Caliper Corporation involvement in the RMIP program.

- Conversion of 2000 Tranplan highway and transit networks to TransCad.
- Conflated the TransCad highway and transit networks using aerial photos.
- Development of highway and transit skims for input to Cambridge Systematics model involvement program.
- Converted the current SCAG model using 5-loops.
- All Tranplan attributes were preserved and new attributes were added.
- Expanded SCAG's 3217 zone O-D vehicle matrices to the 4149 zone O-D matrices for creating preliminary assignments.
- New features include: 1) Dowling VDF curves, 2) parking restrictions.

- 4.5 Inter-Regional Rail - Consultants who worked on this project are currently working in another country. We will schedule them at another MTF meeting.

4.6 High Flow Arterial Project - Mony Patel gave a power point presentation (to be copied to SCAG's website) on the project which was completed on April, 2005. Following are highlights:

- Based on Caltrans' Freeway Master Plan.
- Freeways placed approximately at 4 mile intervals.
- One of the goals is to propose Hi-Flow Arterial network to supplement areas with insufficient capacities.
- Criteria for selecting the Hi-Flow arterials are: 1) existing freeway system, 2) arterials with direct access to freeways, 3) alternative parallel routes to freeway system, 4) access to key destination centers, 5) arterials should be a major class 1 or 2., 6) grid system to match original 4 mile freeway system.
- Identify 75 most congested intersections. Note: 31 intersections are at intersections of Hi-Flow arterials.
- Identify specific transportation improvement proposals.
- Provide detail evaluation of alternatives.

4.7 Heavy Duty Truck Model Improvement Project – The contract has been signed with Cambridge Systematics, prime consultant. This project is scheduled to be completed by March, 2006. Mike Ainsworth announced that there will be a “Kick-off” meeting in the afternoon on the HDT MIP program. All MTF staff invited to participate in the project.

5.0 Open Discussion and Other Business – None.

6.0 Schedule and Agenda for Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2005.

7.0 Adjournment.